

There is no Work too Small or too Great  
for the Spirit of Christianity—How

When you have anything to do to life however humble it may seem to be, God always tries to help you to do it. If you are the son of a fisherman, then God will help you, as he helped Simon when he was a fisherman. If your work is drawing water, then he will help you, as when he talked at the well near to the Samaritan women. If you are a soldier, he will help you, as he did Matthew when he was a soldier. He will give you the strength of the receipt of onions. A religion that is not good in one place is not good anywhere in another place. The man who has only a day's wages, if he pokes around needs the guidance of a man who has a lifetime's wages. A day of a bank account is worth a hundred thousand hard dollars.

There are those prominent in the churches who seem to be on public occasions very honest, who do not put the principles of honesty in their lives. They are like the secret misdeeds of creditors. They are the most grasping of dealers. They are known as sharpers on the street. The flesh is very strong in their sin catch. A man who is very strong in his sin spring is very strong in his sin catch. They are

THE LITTLE FOES EPOIC, THE VICES.

Again, we need to bring the religion of Christ into our commonest trials. For so very losses, for bereavement, for trouble that shocks like an earthquake and that haunts like a storm, we prescribe religious consolation; but, business man, for the small annoyances of last week, how much of the grandeur of God do you apply? "Oh, yes," you say, "there are too small for such application." My brother, they are shaping your character, they are measuring your temper, they are wearing out your patience and they are making you less and less of a man. I go into a sculptor's studio and see him shaping a statue. He has a chisel in one hand and a mallet in the other, and he gives a very gentle stroke—click, click, click! I say, "Why don't you strike a little harder?" He replies, "I can't strike harder the statue. I can't do it that way. I must do it this way."

So he works on, and after awhile the features come out, and everybody that enters the studio is charmed and fascinated. Well, God has your soul under process of development, and it is the little annoyances and vexations of life that are shaping your spiritual nature. It is click, click, click, and mallet, and mallet, and grand provisions made, and come, and with one stroke prepare you for heaven. And you say that that is not the way. And

**THE SIN OF INGRATITUDE**

I was preaching on Thanksgiving day and someone asked me, "Why do we thank you into the Lord, for he is good; for his mercy endureth forever." I do not know whether there was any blessing on the sermon or not, but the text went straight to my heart. I thought, "How can I be so good as I read the text: 'Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good'—Why, I have never rendered him any thanks. Oh, what an ingrate I have been!" Can I be, my brethren, that you and I, who are the good and good God all these days—that you have had clothing and shelter and all beneficent surroundings and yet have never offered your hearts to God?

Oh, let a sense of the divine forgiveness that is yours every day bludgeon me into your heart, and if you have never before uttered one sacred note of thanksgiving into the God who shall shield, have your name. What I say to me I say to all of this world. I ask you to thank God for his love, and have recommended to your everyday

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